



FACT SHEET

What is the BCRLF?

The Brownfields Cleanup Revolving Loan Fund (BCRLF) is a fund that the South Carolina Department of Health and Environmental Control (SC DHEC) received from the United States Environmental Protection Agency's (EPAs) Brownfields Program that is available for loan to finance environmental cleanup activities at Brownfields sites across South Carolina. The South Carolina Jobs and Economic Development Authority (JEDA) is the fund manager and is working with SC DHEC to administer the BCRLF.

What are Brownfields?

Brownfields are properties that are idle, abandoned, or underutilized; where expansion, redevelopment, or reuse is hindered by the presence or potential presence of environmental contamination.

Who Can Apply For The BCRLF?

- Members of the coalition partnership (consisting of the Counties of Abbeville, Anderson, Greenville, Kershaw, and Spartanburg; the Towns of Bluffton, Cowpens, Johnston, Lyman, Ware Shoals, and Yemassee; and the Cities of Anderson and Greenville) currently have specific amounts available to them for cleanup.
- Other local governments, businesses, non-profit organizations, public and private parties across South Carolina are eligible to apply if they are not responsible parties for the site being remediated.

Priority will be given to those proposals that show sustainable redevelopment plans, a potential for creating new jobs, and an enhancement to the community.

In addition, a party who borrows money through the BCRLF to clean up a site **MUST** have signed a Voluntary Cleanup Contract (VCC) with SC DHEC, which will ensure that the party performs the cleanup with SC DHEC's oversight.





How Much Can I Borrow?

Members of the coalition partnership have designated amounts that can be borrowed. If an interested party requests funding from an area not in the jurisdiction of the coalition partnership, the current amount available to be loaned is \$900,000.

What Are The Typical Loan Terms?

Loans are fixed at the time of closing at two (2) points below the prime interest rate. The beginning repayment date may be negotiated with the lender. The loan payments (principle, plus interest and fees) are used to make new loans to other borrowers for the same authorized activities. Borrowers will also be responsible for paying all closing costs and obtaining environmental insurance.

What Can the BCRLF Be Used For?

An eligible applicant can use the BCRLF to perform non-time critical removal actions consistent with the National Contingency Plan (NCP), which are referenced in the Voluntary Cleanup Contract entered into by the applicant and SC DHEC. Funds may be used towards costs associated with meeting any of these requirements, including the requirement to conduct engineering evaluation and cost analysis of cleanup alternatives and all public participation requirements. The BCRLF may be used for site-monitoring activities that are reasonable and necessary during the cleanup process.

Sites At Which the Fund May Not Be Used:

- Sites that are listed or proposed for listing on the National Priorities List (i.e., Superfund Sites)
- Sites where a Federal or State agency is planning to or is conducting a response or enforcement action.

Cleanups must be approved by SC DHEC through the Voluntary Cleanup Program in order to be eligible to receive a loan through this program.

What Activities Can Be Funded?

Cleanup actions associated with removing, mitigating, or preventing the release or threat of a release of a hazardous substance, pollutant, or contaminant that include, but are not limited to the following:

- Erecting fences, warning signs or other security or site control precautions
- Installation of drainage controls
- Stabilization of berms, dikes, impoundments, drainage or closing lagoons
- Capping of contaminated soils





- Using chemicals and other materials to retard the spread of a release or mitigate its effects
- Excavation, consolidation, or removal of highly contaminated soils from drainage or other areas
- Removal of drums, barrels, tanks, or other bulk containers that contain or may contain hazardous substances, pollutants, or contaminants
- Containment, treatment, disposal or incineration of hazardous materials
- Providing an alternative water supply where necessary, immediately to reduce exposure from contaminated household water
- Conducting site monitoring activities (including sampling and analysis) that are necessary during the cleanup process, or that determine the effectiveness of a cleanup, and
- Costs associated with public participation, worker health and safety, and interagency coordination requirements.

May the BCRLF funds be used for demolition and/or site preparation related to cleanup?

The BCRLF funds may be used for removal activities (including demolition and/or site preparation) only if the demolition and/or site preparation is necessary to access the environmental contamination to be removed. The BCRLF funds may not be used for pre-cleanup environmental response activities, such as site assessment, identification, and characterization.

What Can the BCRLF NOT Be Used For?

The BCRLF may not be used for pre-cleanup environmental response activities, such as:

- Site assessment, identification, and characterization
- Cleanup of products that are part of the building structure and result in exposures within residential buildings or businesses/ commercial structures (e.g., interior lead based paint contamination or asbestos that results in indoor exposure), or public or private drinking water supplies that have deteriorated through ordinary use
- Cleanup of petroleum products unless they are believed to be co-mingled with a hazardous substance, pollutant, or contaminant
- Monitoring and data collection necessary to apply for or comply with environmental permits under other Federal and State laws, unless the permit is required as a component of the cleanup action, or
- Development activities that are not removal actions (e.g., construction of a new facility or marketing of property) or job training.





Why Does This Program Exist?

EPA's purpose in establishing the BCRLF is to enable states, political subdivisions and federally-recognized Indian tribes to make loans to facilitate the cleanup and redevelopment of Brownfield properties by providing a source of low interest funds to be used for environmental cleanup. The EPA's Brownfields Program is a commitment to help communities revitalize such properties (both environmentally and economically) mitigate potential health risks, and restore economic vitality to areas where Brownfields exist. The BCRLF offers a line of credit to pay for cleanups at sites where environmental concerns are hampering reuse and redevelopment.

How Do I Learn More?

Please call Gail Rawls Jeter, SC DHEC's Brownfields Coordinator, at (803) 896-4069, or E-mail her at jetergr@dhec.state.sc.us for more information and/or to request a loan application package.

